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Peleg Spencer.

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H.R. Rep. No. 169, 23rd Cong., 1st Sess. (1834)

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PELEG SPENCER.

JANUARY 14, 1834.

Read, and with the bill committed to a Committee of the Whole House to-morrow.

Mr. E. WHITTLESEY, from the Committee of Claims, to which was referred the bill from the Senate (No. 42) for the relief of Peleg Spencer, made the following

REPORT:

The Committee of Claims, to which was referred a bill from the Senate for the relief of Peleg Spencer, report :

That the bill proposes to give to the petitioner the sum of two hundred and eighty-three dollars for a pair of horses taken by the Indians, while they were in the service of the United States on the frontier, in the year 1832; and for the damages the said petitioner sustained in the partial destruction of his wagon and harness, which were also in said service. It appears by the testimony that the horses were worth two hundred dollars, and that the wagon and harness were worth eighty-five dollars. The testimony, however, proves that the wagon and harness reclaimed by the petitioner were worth thirty-two dollars, which reduces the amount of loss to two hundred and fifty-three dollars. From a calculation made on the papers, it appears interest was computed on this sum for two years, which amounts to \$30 36, but of which \$30 were taken, which, being added to \$253, makes the sum contained in the bill. The committee do not see why interest should be given in this case any more than in any other case where a special act is passed for the relief of a claimant. The committee, therefore, recommend that the bill be amended by striking out "eighty-three" and inserting "fifty-three." This committee refer the House to the report made in the Senate as to the facts in the case.

The Committee of Claims, to which was referred the petition of Peleg Spencer, of Illinois, report :

That it appears from the certificate of Capt. Payne, of the Illinois militia, and other proof to the satisfaction of the committee, that the claimant entered the public service as a wagoner, on the 10th day of June, 1832,

with his wagon, harness, and two valuable horses, and that while in the service, on the 16th day of June aforesaid, his wagon, team, and driver were sent by Captain Payne for boards to cover a block-house that the troops were erecting on the river Dupage, to protect the frontier of Illinois; and while so employed, the driver was killed by the hostile Indians, by three balls shot through his body, the horses and part of the harness taken, and the wagon much injured by the Indians. The committee, therefore, report a bill for the relief of the petitioner.